

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT  
Silvertip Pipeline Spill



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, Region VIII**

**Subject: SITREP # 04 July 15, 2011  
Silvertip Pipeline Oil Spill Response  
Billings, Montana Latitude: 45° 39' 25.57" Longitude:108° 44'54.35"**



Oil Impacted Llama Farm – Division B

**Reporting Period:** 0700 hours 07/11/11 to 0700 hours 07/13/11

USEPA Concurrence	Finance Section	Logistics Section	Planning Section	Operations Section
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## 1.0 Introduction

At approximately 11:00 PM on Friday, July 1 a break occurred in a 12-inch pipeline owned by ExxonMobil that resulted in a spill of crude oil into the Yellowstone River approximately 20 miles upstream of Billings, Montana. According to the company's estimates, 1,000 barrels of oil entered the river, which is in flood stage, before the pipeline was cut off. EPA's primary concern is protecting people's health and the environment. EPA will remain on-site to ensure cleanup and restoration efforts do just that. EPA continues to hold ExxonMobil, the responsible party, accountable for assessment and cleanup.

## 1.1 Background Information

<b>D.O. Number:</b>		<b>Action Memo Date:</b>	
<b>Response Authority:</b>	OPA	<b>Response Type:</b>	Emergency
<b>Response Lead:</b>	PRP	<b>Incident Category:</b>	Removal Action
<b>NPL Status:</b>	Non NPL	<b>Operable Unit:</b>	
<b>Mobilization Date:</b>	7/2/11	<b>Start Date:</b>	7/2/11
<b>RCRIS ID:</b>			
<b>ERNS No.:</b>		<b>State Notification:</b>	
<b>FPN#: E11809</b>		<b>Reimbursable Account</b>	

## 1.2 Preliminary Site Inspection and Response Activities

An EPA On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) has been directing and overseeing cleanup activities since arriving at the site. EPA and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service personnel conducted aerial assessments and reported seeing bank deposits and small pooling of oil in backwaters and slow water at intermittent points along both the north and south banks of the Yellowstone River. Personnel are walking the shores and are deploying absorbent booms along the river banks to absorb oil that collected in slow water along the shoreline. EPA is conducting air monitoring and has taken water samples to determine what impacts the spill may have on air or water quality. Shoreline assessment is ongoing to determine effective strategies for recovering the oil. Sorbent boom deployment is ongoing and where possible other oil recovery and containment approaches are being implemented. Flood conditions on the river have hampered oil recovery efforts and prevented a more thorough assessment of the impacts at this time.

## 1.3 Incident Objective

The following incident objectives and command emphasis are taken from the IAP for the Operational Period 7 – July 13, 2011, at 0730 to July 15, 2011, at 0730.

### General Response Objectives

1. Ensure the safety of the responders.
2. Maintain the source of the spill.
3. Characterize and assess the impact to maximize the protection of public health and welfare.
4. Define impacted areas.
5. Contain and recover spilled material.
6. Develop and execute a remediation work plan for impacted areas.
7. Manage a coordinated response effort.

8. Execute Wildlife Plan to to recover and rehabilitate injured wildlife.
9. Keep stakeholders and public informed of response activities (Residential, Commercial, Agricultural, and Tribal)

## **2.0 Background**

On July 6, 2011 EPA issued an administrative order to ExxonMobile instructing them to provide information on the circumstance of the spill, conduct appropriate recovery and remediation actions, and perform ongoing environmental sampling. The order also requires ExxonMobile to provide a workplan which is currently being reviewed by the state of Montana, EPA, and other agency partners.

## **3.0 Current Operations**

There are 170 clean-up crew working in Division A and 115 clean-up crew in division B. Overflights have identified 47 potential oily sites: 25 in Division A, 15 in Division B, and 7 in Division C. One site in Division A has been determined to be non-oil. Source removal has been completed at 2 sites in Division A. Floodwaters have prevented access to 4 four sites in Division A, 8 Sites in Division B, and all 7 Sites in Division C.

Division A teams are staged at Thiel Road, Clarks Fork, and Duck Creek Staging areas and working 12 oil recovery sites using sorbent booms and pads. In calm flooded backwaters, teams are using Jon Boats and Air Boats to place sorbents.

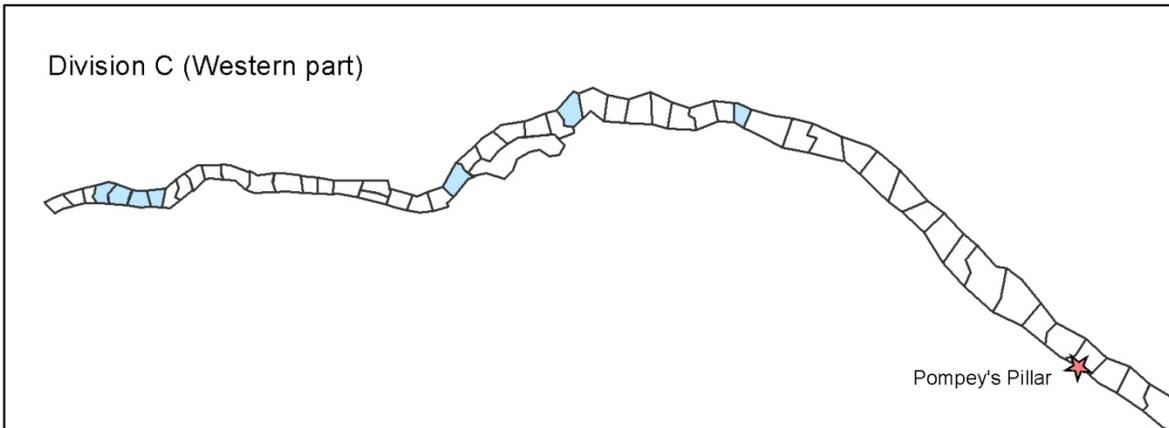
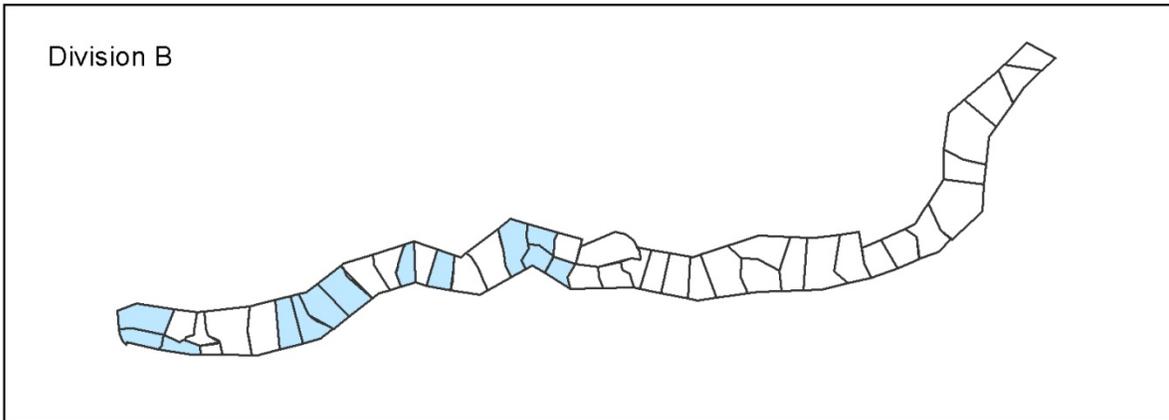
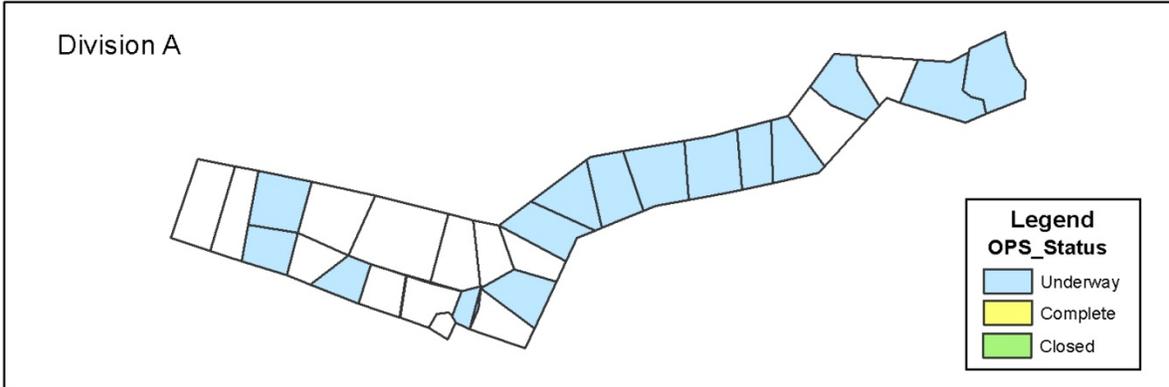
Division B crews are staged at Blue Creek/Moon Park and Duck Creek, Blue Creek staging areas and working 6 oil recovery sites. In STR 1 locations teams are implementing cutting of oiled grasses, removal of dead oiled vegetation and small oiled debris. In calm flooded backwaters, teams are using Jon Boats and Air Boats to place sorbents.

Jet-boats for addressing island oily areas have been partially initiated with deployment of sorbent booms on several oily water areas along islands. River water levels are expected to continue to drop and will likely result in safety approval for use of jet-boats for transporting crews to islands to implement SRTs.

# Silvertip Pipeline Incident 7/14/11 Work Areas

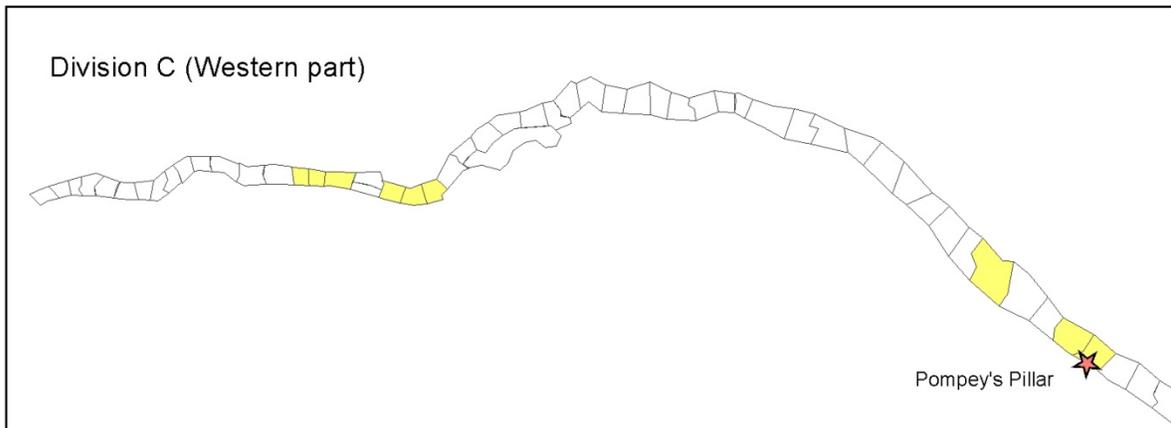
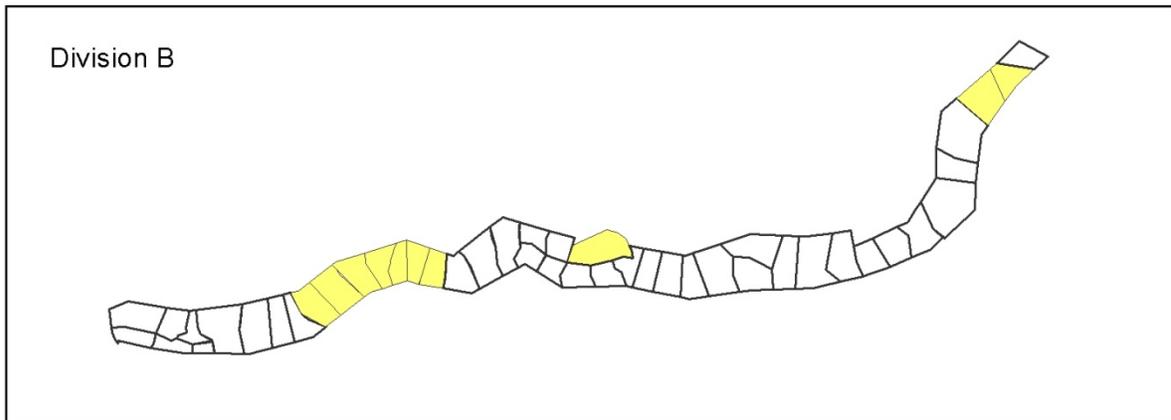
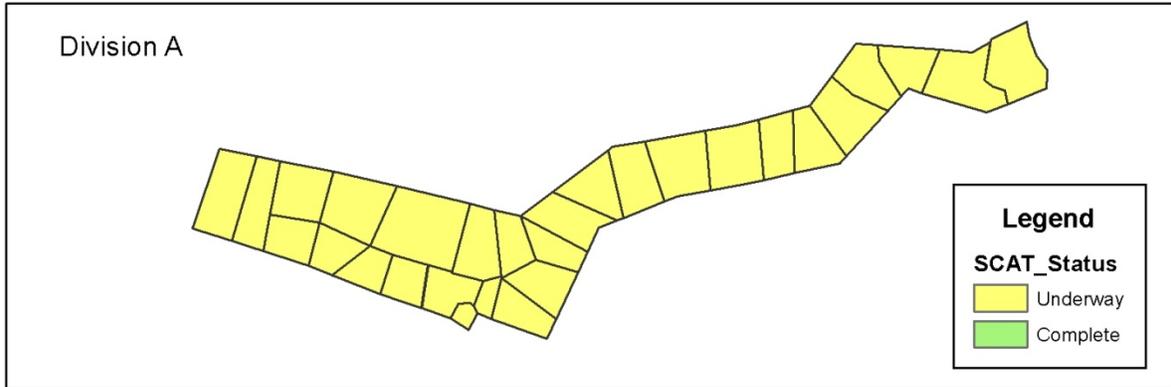
## Silvertip Incident OPS Work Status 7/14/2011

\*Data is current as of 7/13/2011



# Silvertip Incident SCAT Work Status 7/14/2011

\*Data Current as of 7/13/2011



**Work Area/Work site Summary**

<b>Work Area</b>	<b>Identified</b>	<b>No Action Required</b>	<b>Underway</b>	<b>Awaiting Approval</b>
A	25	1	15	0
B	15	0	8	0
C	7	0	0	0
D	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>47<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>1</b>	<b>23<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>0</b>

<sup>1</sup>Work Activities restricted at 23 sites due to river levels

<sup>2</sup>6 Sites awaiting SCAT completion confirmation

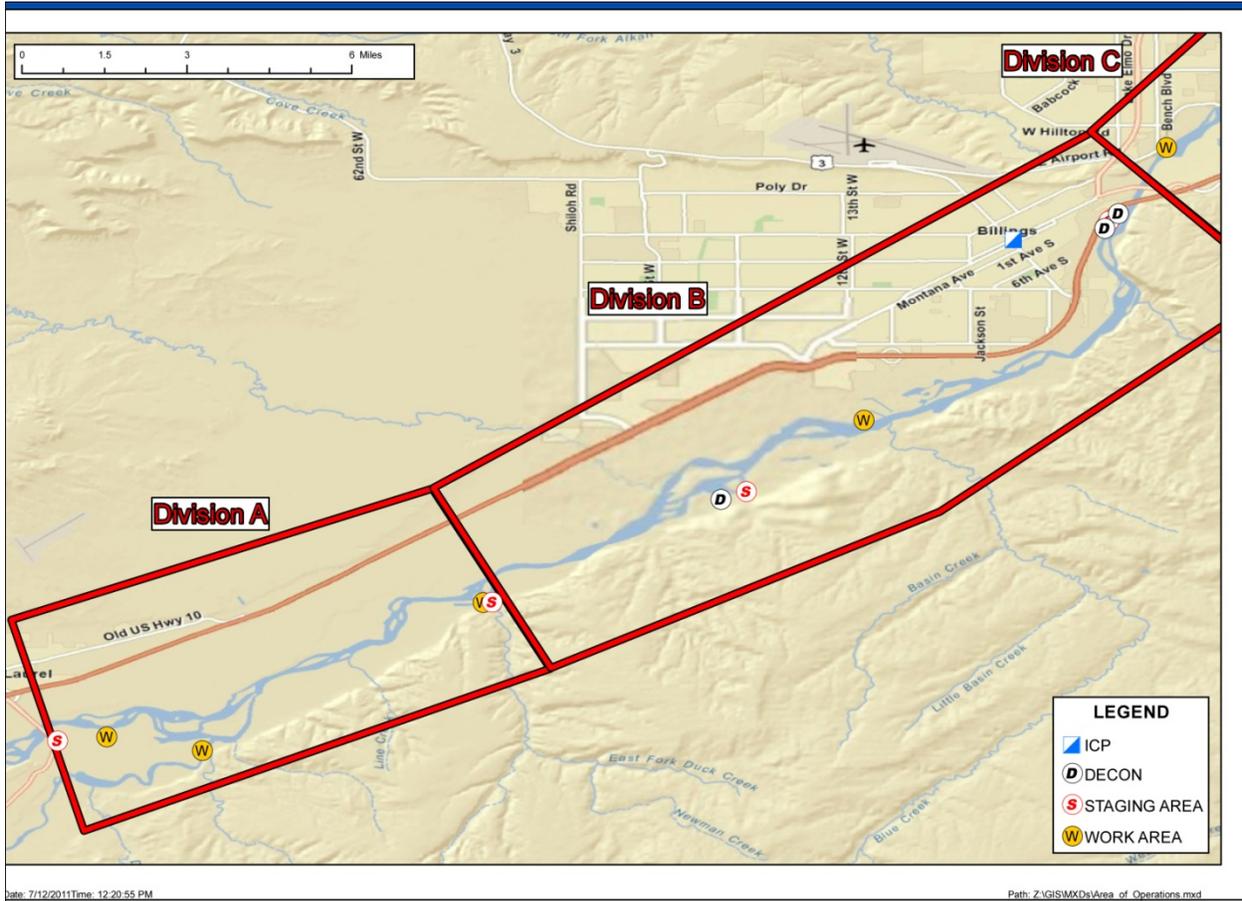
**SCAT Monitoring Data**

<b>Work Area</b>	<b>Number of Segments</b>	<b>Number of Surveys in Progress<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Oil Impact (Miles)<sup>1</sup></b>			
			<b>Very Light</b>	<b>Light</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Heavy</b>
A	29	28	0.31	1.23	9.1	0.28
B	45	8	1.64	4.98	0.2	0.06
C	88	9	1.91	0	0.19	0
D	47	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	209	45	3.86	6.21	9.49	0.34

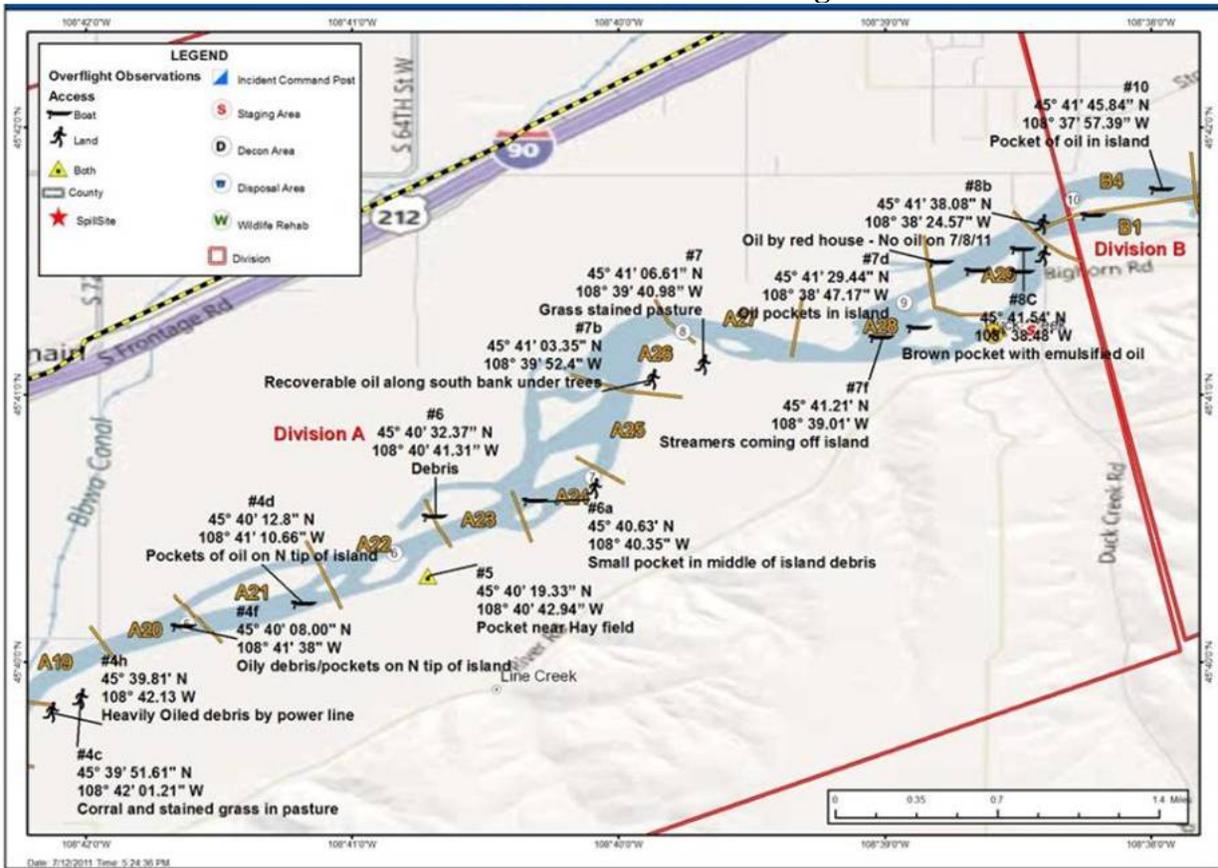
<sup>1</sup>Represents miles of impacted areas observed during completed SCATS

<sup>2</sup>Segments evaluated include only partial shorelines in each segment pending boat access due to unsafe river conditions

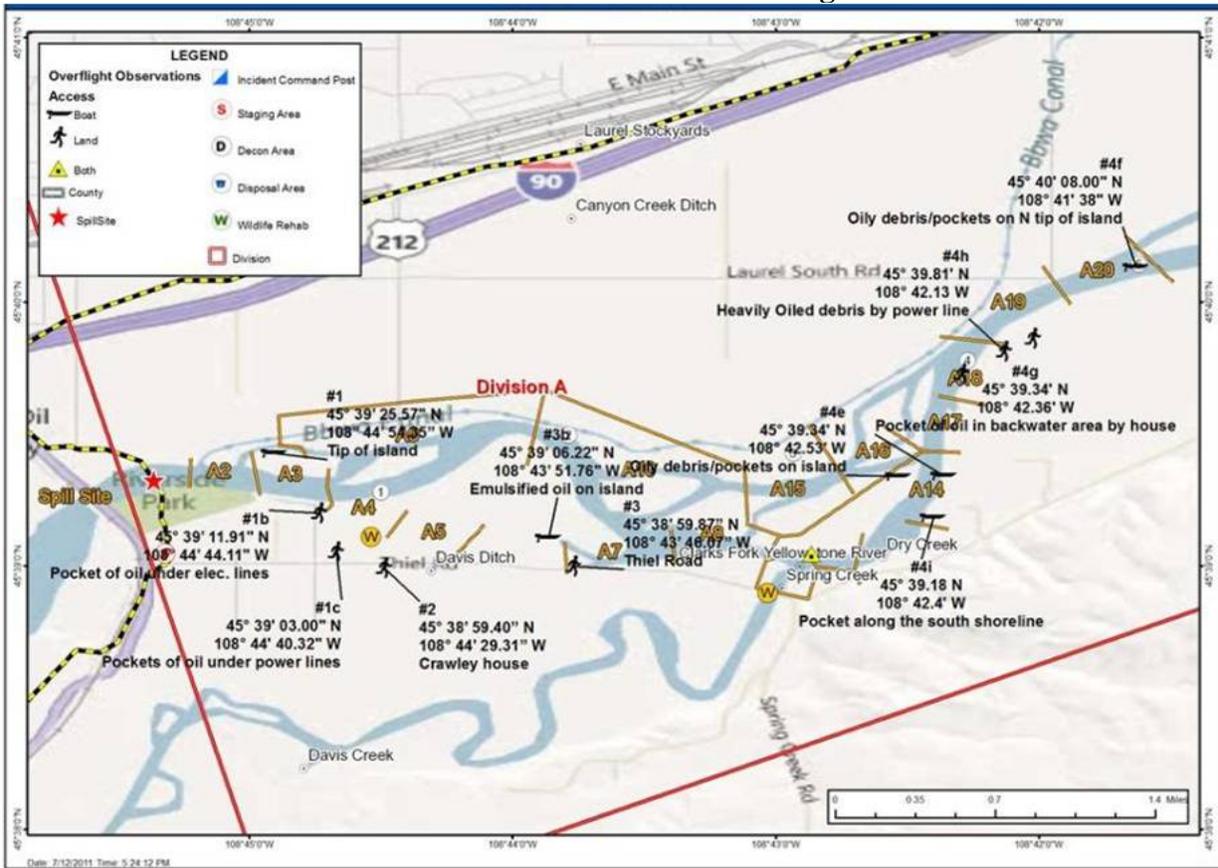
# Divisions A, B, C – Staging and Decon Areas



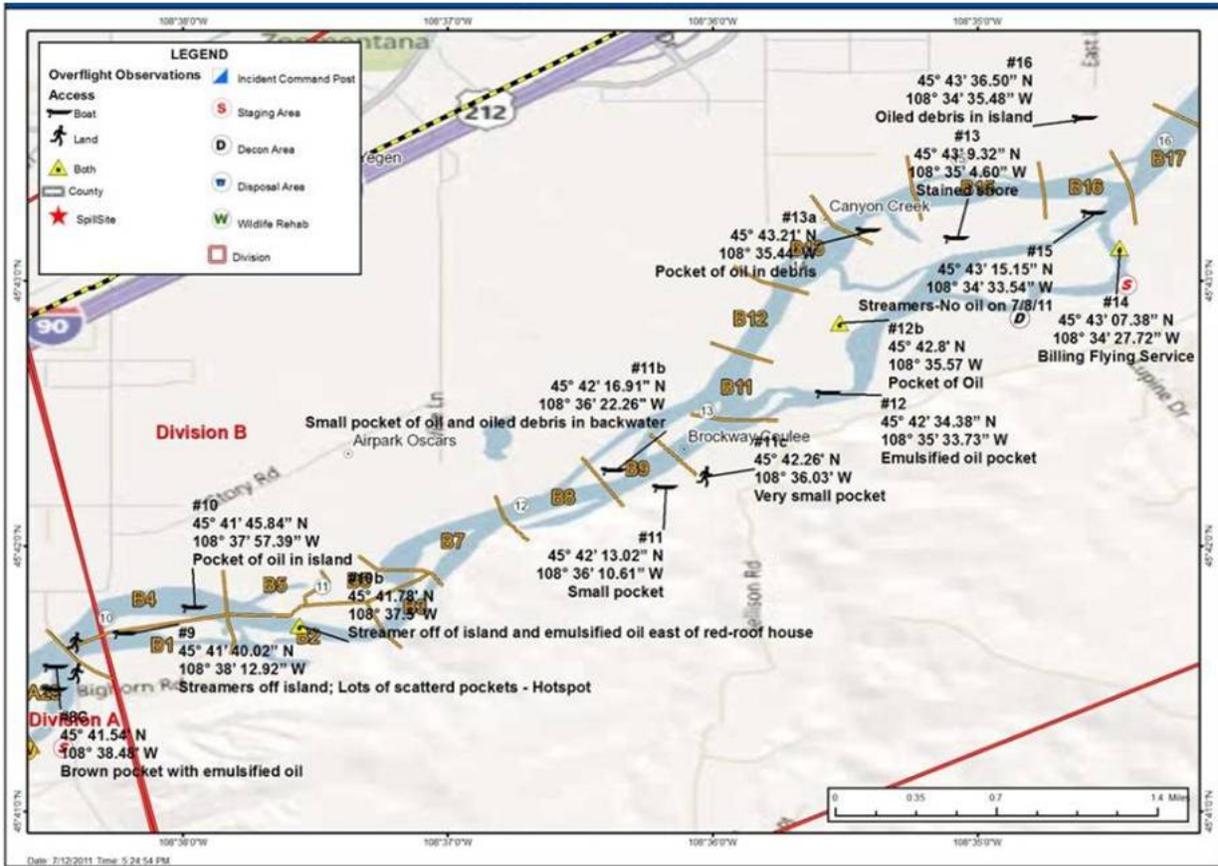
## Division A East Assessment and Monitoring Areas 7-12



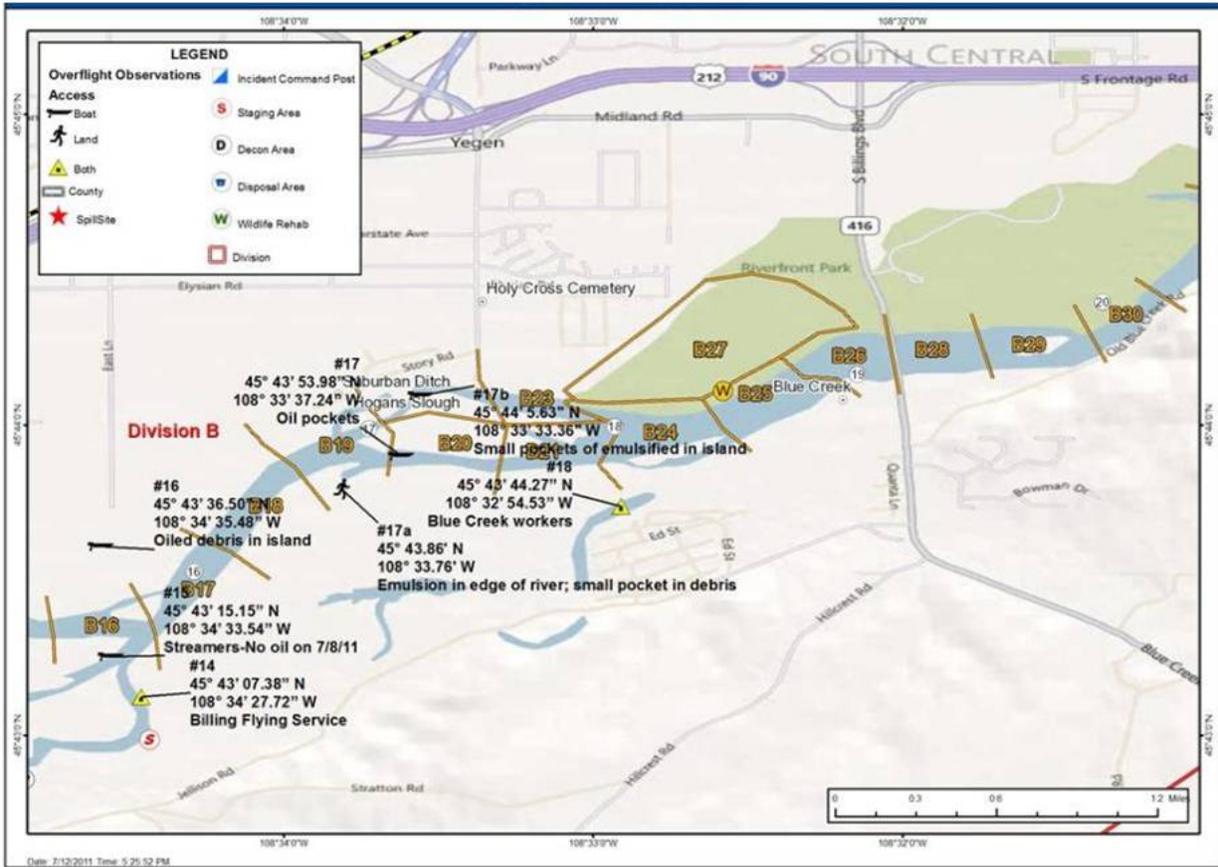
## Division A West Assessment and Monitoring Areas 7-12



## Division B West Assessment and Monitoring Areas 7-12



## Division B East Assessment and Monitoring Areas 7-12



## Sampling

### Samples Collected as of July 13, 2011

LATEST UPDATE: 07/14/11 AM			Date: 07/03/11- 07/09/11		Date: 07/10/11		Date: 07/11/11		Date: 07/12/11		Date: 07/13/11		TOTAL COLL'TED TO DATE:	
			EPA	Exxon Mobil	EPA	Exxon Mobil	EPA	Exxon Mobil	EPA	Exxon Mobil	EPA	Exxon Mobil	EPA	Exxon Mobil
Water	Well	Surface	5	5	1	1				3	1	1	7	10
		Drinking	4	35	4	2	7	5	1	6	2	4	18	52
		Irrigation	1	11		5		3	1	4			2	23
Soil									16		25		41	0
Sediment									7		8		15	0
Air			6	50		18		19		18		18	6	123
Product			3		1								4	0
Total			19	101	6	26	7	27	25	31	36	23	93	208
EPA % Confirmation			19		23		26		81				45	

07/13/11 AM	Air Monitoring Locations To Date
EPA	25
Exxon Mobil	152

				Community Air Monitoring Readings
<b>Date: 07/03/11-07/09/11</b>				
EPA				84
Exxon Mobil				532
<b>Date: 07/10/11</b>				
EPA				0
Exxon Mobil				61
<b>Date: 07/11/11</b>				
EPA				54
Exxon Mobil				33
<b>Date: 07/12/11</b>				
EPA				2
Exxon Mobil				41
<b>TOTAL TO DATE:</b>				<b>731</b>

# Soil and Sediment Sampling Locations Divisions A and B

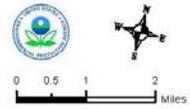
ME (E&E), July 14, 2011 09:00



The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has compiled this computer representation from data or information sources that may not have been verified by the EPA. This data is intended as a general representation only, and is not to be relied upon without verification by an independent professional qualified to verify such data or information. The EPA does not guarantee the accuracy, completeness, or timeliness of the information shown, and shall not be liable for any loss or injury resulting from reliance upon the information shown.

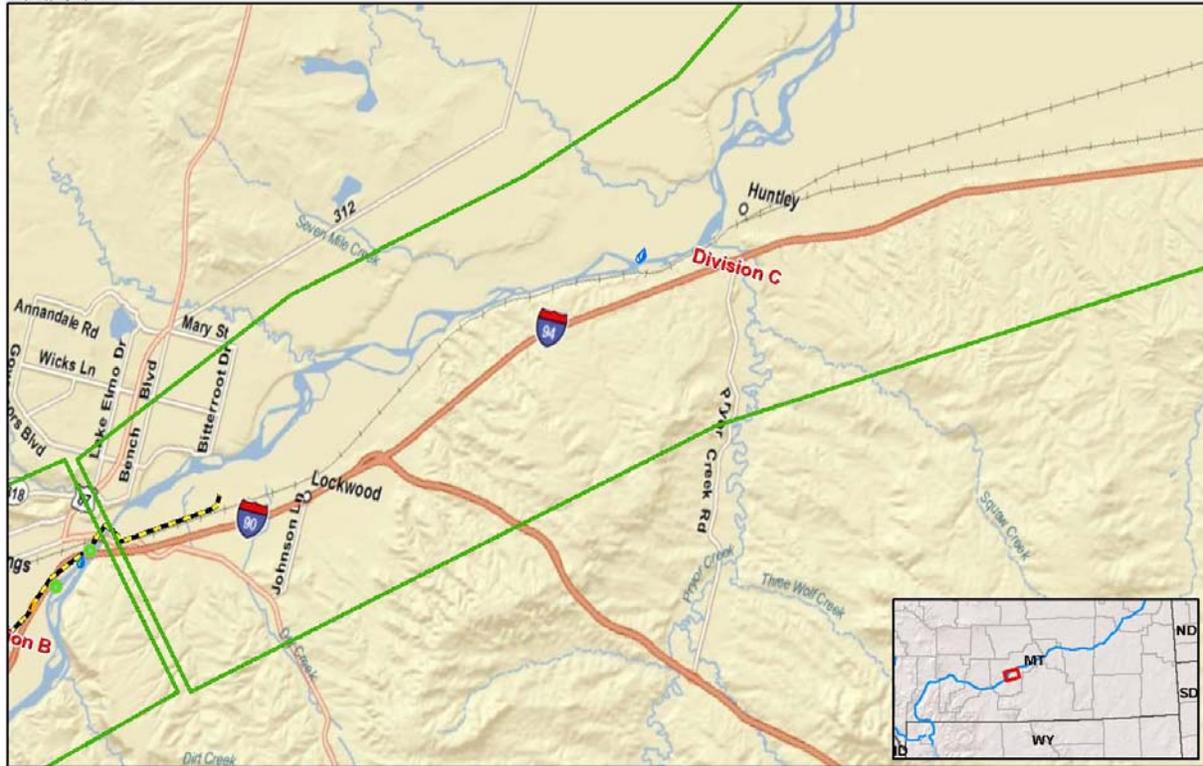
## Silvertip Pipeline Spill (Division A & B)

- ▲ Air
- Sediment
- Surface Soil
- Product (Oil)
- Drinking Water
- Surface Water
- ★ Spill Site
- Division
- Pipeline



# Soil and Sediment Sampling Locations Division C

ME (E&E), July 14, 2011 09:00



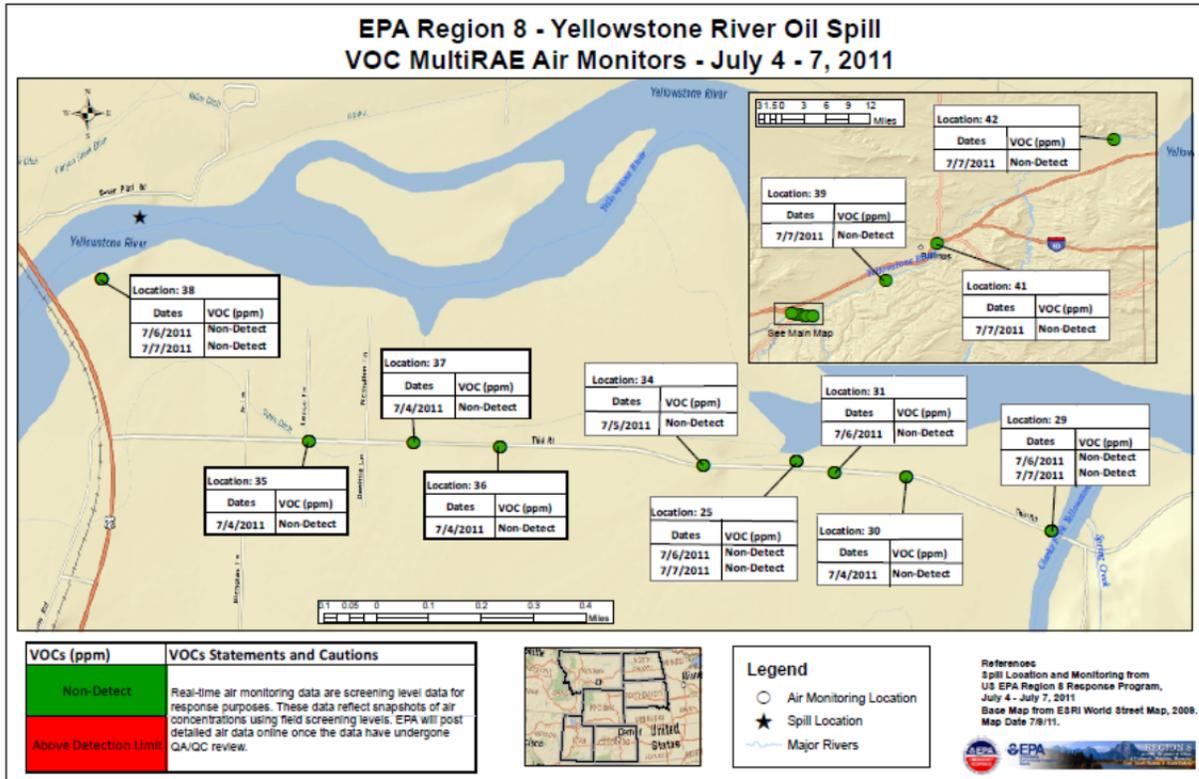
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## Silvertip Pipeline Spill (Division C)

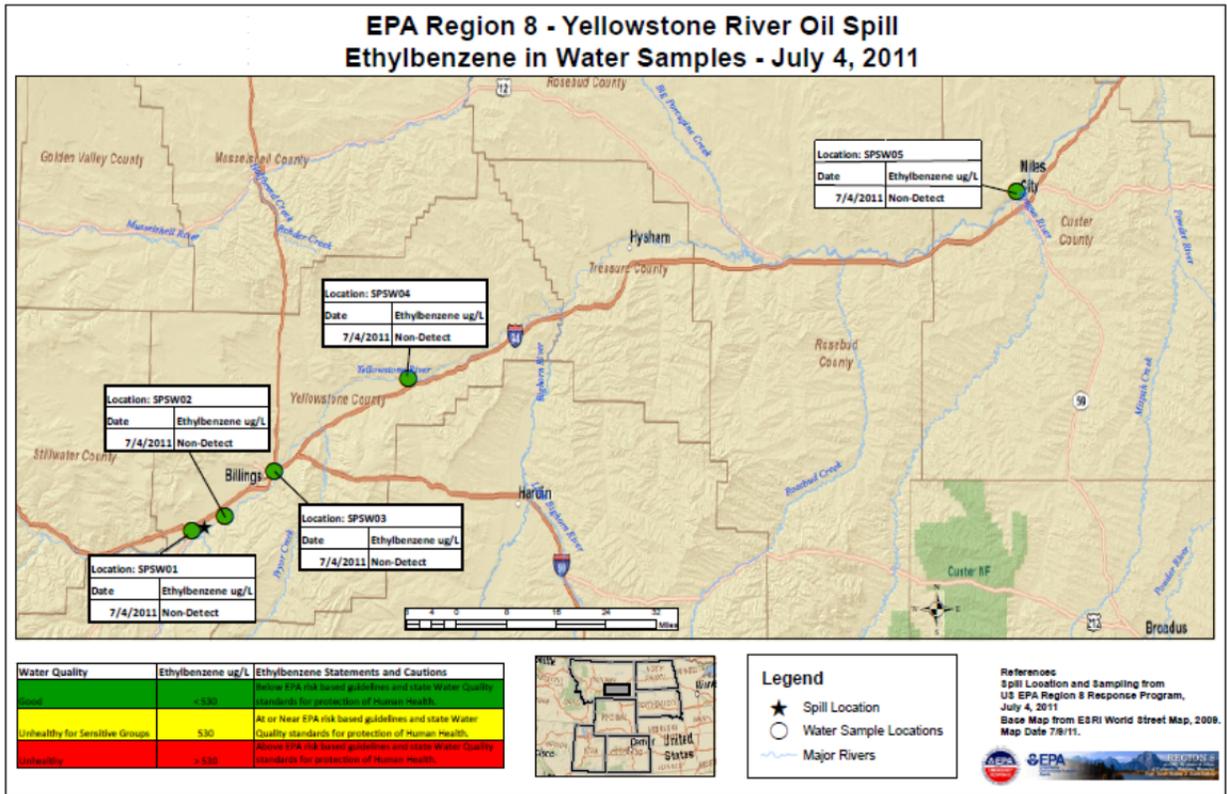
- ▲ Air
- Sediment
- Surface Soil
- Product (Oil)
- Drinking Water
- Surface Water
- ★ Spill Site
- Division
- Pipeline



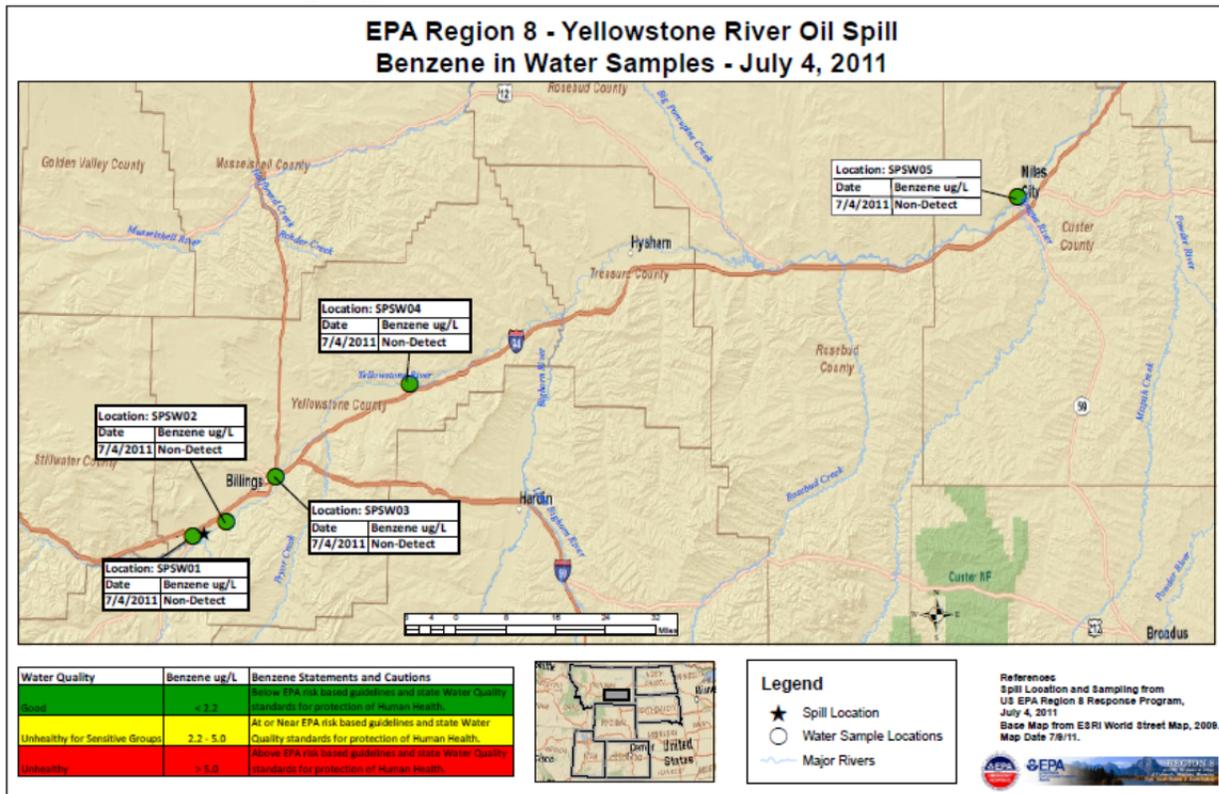
VOC MultiRAE Air Monitors



# Ethylbenzene in Water Sampling Locations



## Benzene in Water Sampling Locations



### 4.0 Additional Operations

(7/13) A dead heavily oiled mallard duckling was retrieved from heavily oiled foliage today and a dead six-inch fish, which is thought to be a sucker, was retrieved from a backwater area with sheen. The warbler captured yesterday survived the first 24 hours and is being stabilized before International Bird Rescue cleans the oiled bird. The Woodhouse's toad captured yesterday was released today. International Bird Rescue staff continues efforts toward capture of a small group of moderately to heavily oiled geese which are exhibiting altered behavior and are suspected of suffering from hypothermia. Service-conducted aerial wildlife surveys occurred for the sixth consecutive day this morning. The Service continued to support EPA by embedding with Shoreline Cleanup and Assessment Technique (SCAT) teams.

IBR's rehabilitation center is now fully operational and capable of fully handling incoming birds and most wildlife for rehabilitation.

(7/14) The warbler in rehabilitation was cleaned today and is being fed and stabilized before International Bird Rescue (IBR) releases it.

## 5.0 Response Metrics

All progress metrics in this are as reported by ExxonMobile unless otherwise indicated.

### Boom/sorbent Report (7-14-11)

Equipment	Staged	Assigned
Boom Available (ft)	64,740	36,188
Sorbent Rolls	5,680	1,776
Sorbent Pads	1,753	2,532
Boom	10,600	500
Viscous Sweep	1,848	1,841

### Soil and Debris Waste Tracking (7-14-11)

Waste Stream	Disposed	Staged	Cumulative Quantity Shipped
Oily Liquids (bbls)	942	0	942
Oily Solids (yd <sup>3</sup> )		660	

## 6.0 Planning Section

A multi-agency work plan review workgroup has been established which includes: MT DEQ, MT FWP, BLM, USFWS, BIA, and Crow Nation to review work plans pursuant their respective jurisdictional responsibilities. The documents were submitted pursuant the CWA 311 Order which was issued to ExxonMobil last week. These documents include, but are not limited to, the Sampling and Analysis Plan, Quality Assurance Project Plan, Oil Containment and Recovery Plan, Source Control and Remediation Plan, and Downstream Remediation Plan. The Unified Command targets Sunday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011 to complete and finalize the plans.

## 7.0 Anticipated Activities for Next Reporting Period

The next reporting period (SITREP #5) will cover July 15, 2011 0700 to July 17, 2011 0700.

## 9.0 Safety Reports

Nothing to report in this reporting period

## 10.0 Liaison/ Public Information Officer

On July 13, 2011 EPA held a media availability session. Updates were provided by the EPA along with MDEQ provided an update of currently cleanup activities. There were approximately 4 media outlets present.

On July 13, 2011 EPA held a community meeting in Laurel, Montana to provide the

community with an update on cleanup efforts and an opportunity to ask questions. There were a total of 8 panelist compromised of Federal, State and local representatives. There were approximately 60 participants.

### 11.0 Finance Section

**The current FPN ceiling is \$1 Million. Approximately 78.31% of the ceiling (\$1,000,000) has been expended or obligated through July 13, 2011. The latest estimated burn rate is \$69,886.20 per day. These cost summaries reflect only EPA-funded expenditures for the incident.**

**FPN E11809 - Silvertip Pipeline Oil Spill  
As of: 07/13/2011**

<b>START Contractor</b>	<b>Est. Expended</b>	<b>Est Burn Rate (Latest Daily)</b>
<b>URS (ceiling - \$225,000.00)</b>	<b>\$186,000.00</b>	<b>\$22,000.00</b>
<b>Response Contractor Sub-Totals</b>	<b>\$186,000.00</b>	<b>\$22,000.00</b>
<b>EPA Funded Costs:</b>		
<b>Total EPA Personnel Costs</b>	<b>\$226,539.00</b>	<b>\$19,497.00</b>
<b>Pollution Removal Funding Agreements:</b>		
<b>Total Other Agencies (Total \$375,000.00)</b>	<b>\$262,500.00</b>	<b>\$18,750.00</b>
<b>Sub-Totals</b>	<b>\$675,039.00</b>	<b>\$60247.00</b>
Indirect Cost (16.00%)	\$108,006.24	\$9,639.20
<b>Total Est. Oil Spill Cost</b>	<b>\$783,045.29</b>	<b>\$69,886.20</b>
Oil Spill Ceiling authorized by USCG	\$1,000,000.00	
<b>Oil Spill Ceiling Available Balance</b>	<b>\$216,954.76</b>	
<b>Est. Percentage Spent</b>	<b>78.30%</b>	

## **12.0 Unified Command**

U.S. EPA

ExxonMobile (Responsible Party)

Montana Dept. of Environmental Quality

## **15.0 Support Agencies**

DOT

BLM

BIA

Yellowstone Co.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

MT Dept. of Fish and Game

CA Fish and Game Office of Spill

Prevention and Response

## 10.1 Congressional Presence

U.S. Congressman Denny Rehburg

U.S. Senator Max Baucus

U.S. Senator John Tester

## 11.0 Personnel On Site

Agency/Entity	Numbers Reported 7/12/11
EPA	11
START	13
USCG	4
USFWS	5
US DOT	0
BIA	0
BLM	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>36</b>

## 11.1 Additional Information

For additional information, please refer to: <http://www.epa.gov/yellowstoneriverspill/>

## 11.2 Reporting Schedule

SITREPs are issued on the first day of the Operational Period and will continue until the UC establishes a different reporting schedule.

SitReps are posted to:

R08\_Documentation\_Unit\_Leader@epa.gov